

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of reconciling records of resource consumption at a plurality of flowing resource consumption sites for incorporation into aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at a target site, comprising the steps of:
 - a. collecting and recording flowing resource consumption at flowing resource consumption sites;
 - b. reconciling records of flowing resource consumption between the resource consumption sites and the target site by
 - i. retrieving records from the resource consumption feeder and interim control points;
 - ii. comparing at least one of:
 - (a). resource consumption totals in the records from the resource consumption feeders with the resource consumption totals in the aggregated records at the target site; and
 - (b). total number of resource consumption records forwarded from the resource consumption feeders with the total number of resource consumption records aggregated at the target site;
 - iii. issuing a notification, if an error is discovered; and
 - iv. if no errors are detected continuing comparing records until all records are reconciled; and
 - c. aggregating the records of flowing resource consumption into aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at the target site.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at the target site comprise billing records.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 comprising aggregating reconciled records of flowing resource consumption into aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at the target site.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 comprising aggregating the records of flowing resource consumption into aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at the target site and thereafter reconciling the aggregated records at the target site.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[[5]]] 1 comprising reconciling the records in a reconciliation session comprising
 - a. logging the reconciliation session start time,
 - b. retrieving the last session start time, and
 - c. ~~retrieving the records from the resource consumption feeder and interim control points;~~
 - d. ~~comparing at least one of:~~
 - i. ~~resource consumption totals in the records from the resource consumption feeders with the resource consumption totals in the aggregated records at the target site; and~~
 - ii. ~~total number of resource consumption records forwarded from the resource consumption feeders with the total number of resource consumption records aggregated at the target site;~~
 - e. ~~c.~~ issuing a notification, logging session status, and ending the reconciliation if an error is discovered; and

[[[f]]] d. if no errors are detected ~~until all records are reconciled~~ continuing comparing records until all records are reconciled, issuing a report, and logging session status.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the flowing resource comprises electrical kilowatt hours.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the flowing resource comprises telephone connect time.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the flowing resource comprises liquids and gases chosen from the group consisting of fuels, chemical feedstocks, and water.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein the aggregate business records are chosen from the group consisting of transfer records, invoices, and units of flowing resource consumption

11. (Currently Amended) A processor system configured and controlled for reconciling flowing resource consumption records, said processor being between a plurality of flowing resource consumption sites and a flowing resource consumption record aggregation target site, for incorporation into aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at the target site, by a process comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting and recording flowing resource consumption at flowing resource consumption sites;
- b. reconciling records of flowing resource consumption between the flowing resource consumption sites and the target site by
 - i. retrieving records from the resource consumption feeder and interim control points;

- ii. comparing at least one of:
 - (a). resource consumption totals in the records from the resource consumption feeders with the resource consumption totals in the aggregated records at the target site; and
 - (b). total number of resource consumption records forwarded from the resource consumption feeders with the total number of resource consumption records aggregated at the target site;
 - iii. issuing a notification, if an error is discovered; and
 - iv. if no errors are detected continuing comparing records until all records are reconciled; and
- c. aggregating the records of flowing resource consumption into aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at the target site.

12. (Currently Amended) The processor system of claim 11 wherein the aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at the target site comprise billing records.

13. (Currently Amended) The processor system of claim 11 wherein the reconciliation process comprises aggregating reconciled records of flowing resource consumption into aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at the target site.

14. (Currently Amended) The processor system of claim 11 wherein the reconciliation process comprises aggregating the records of flowing resource consumption into aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at the target site and thereafter reconciling the aggregated records at the target site.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The processor system of claim ~~[[[15]]]~~ 11 wherein the reconciliation process comprises reconciling the records in a reconciliation session comprising

- a. logging the reconciliation session start time,
- b. retrieving the last session start time, and
- e. ~~retrieving the records from the resource consumption feeder and interim control points;~~
- d. ~~comparing at least one of:~~
 - i. ~~resource consumption totals in the records from the resource consumption feeders with the resource consumption totals in the aggregated records at the target site; and~~
 - ii. ~~total number of resource consumption records forwarded from the resource consumption feeders with the total number of resource consumption records aggregated at the target site;~~
- c ~~[[[e.]]]~~. issuing a notification, logging session status, and ending the reconciliation if an error is discovered; and
- d ~~[[[f]]]~~. if no errors are detected ~~until all records are reconciled~~ continuing comparing records until all records are reconciled, issuing a report, and logging session status.

17. (Currently Amended) The processor system of claim 11 wherein the flowing resource comprises electrical kilowatt hours.

18. (Currently Amended) The processor system of claim 11 wherein the flowing resource comprises telephone connect time.

19. (Currently Amended) The processor system of claim 11 wherein the flowing resource comprises liquids and gases chosen from the group consisting of fuels, chemical feedstocks, and water.

20. (Currently Amended) The processor system of claim 12 wherein the aggregate business records are chosen from the group consisting of transfer records, invoices, and ~~unit~~of units of resource consumption.

21. (Currently Amended) A signal bearing medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing system to reconcile records of flowing resource consumption at a plurality of flowing resource consumption sites for incorporation into aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at a target site, by a method comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting and recording flowing resource consumption at flowing resource consumption sites;
- b. reconciling records of flowing resource consumption between the flowing resource consumption sites and the target site by
 - i. retrieving records from the resource consumption feeder and interim control points;
 - ii. comparing at least one of:
 - (a). resource consumption totals in the records from the resource consumption feeders with the resource consumption totals in the aggregated records at the target site; and
 - (b). total number of resource consumption records forwarded from the resource consumption feeders with the total number of resource consumption records aggregated at the target site;
 - iii. issuing a notification, if an error is discovered; and

- iv. if no errors are detected continuing comparing records until all records are reconciled; and
 - c. aggregating the records of flowing resource consumption into aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at the target site.

- 22. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 21 wherein the aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at the target site comprise billing records.

- 23. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 21 wherein the method comprises aggregating reconciled records of flowing resource consumption into aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at the target site.

- 24. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 21 wherein the method comprises aggregating the records of flowing resource consumption into aggregate business records of the flowing resource consumption at the target site and thereafter reconciling the aggregated records at the target site.

- 25. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 21 wherein the method comprises reconciling the records in a reconciliation session comprising
 - a. logging the reconciliation session start time,
 - b. retrieving the last session start time, and
 - e. ~~retrieving the records from the resource consumption feeder and interim control points;~~
 - d. ~~comparing at least one of:~~
 - i. ~~resource consumption totals in the records from the resource consumption feeders with the resource consumption totals in the aggregated records at the target site; and~~

- ii. ~~total number of resource consumption records forwarded from the resource consumption feeders with the total number of resource consumption records aggregated at the target site;~~
- c. ~~[[[e.]]]~~. issuing a notification, logging session status, and ending the reconciliation if an error is discovered; and
- d. ~~[[[f]]]~~. if no errors are detected ~~until all records are reconciled~~ continuing comparing records until all records are reconciled, issuing a report, and logging session status.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 21 wherein the flowing resource comprises electrical kilowatt hours.

28. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 21 wherein the flowing resource comprises telephone connect time.

29. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 21 wherein the flowing resource comprises liquids and gases chosen from the group consisting of fuels, chemical feedstocks, and water.

30. (Original) The signal bearing medium of claim 22 wherein the aggregate business records are chosen from the group consisting of transfer records, invoices, and units of resource consumption.